

Angie's Marriage Column – January 14, 2009

Unfaithful Husband Wants Divorce, How Do I Move Forward?

Marriage Question: This is real quick because I am about to leave work. My question is how do I move forward. I don't believe nor want a divorce. My husband is currently cheating and feels like he wants a divorce. I am trusting God but what do I do while I wait. We are currently separated. We have two daughters (8 and 12) and are always praying for Dad. Any suggestions.

See my guidance below...

Marriage Question: I recently found out my hubby had an affair and the girl is pregnant. I spoke to her and she said she loves my hubby and he said he is torn between the two of us. A prophet told him he cannot leave her and that if he had waited she was more suited to him than I was. But I love him and he says he still loves me but he can't leave her cause she is pregnant. I know he has to do right by her and be there for his unborn child, but I am so scared he is going to fall into temptation again and I do not want divorce cause the Lord hates it and he said to forgive and I have. I need to know what to do in this situation and how to hold on until he comes around and love just me and how long should I hang on for and if its okay to ever leave him if he carries on sleeping with the girl?

See my guidance below.

Marriage Question: If your husband finds out that you have been unfaithful to him after so many years, most of the information he gets is exaggerated. What can be done after you must have admitted that it is true?

See my guidance below.

Marriage Question: I am trying so very hard to recover my marriage, of over 30 years. My husband and I have been in religious counseling for approx. 15 months...I have been in individual counseling for more than a year...He has just begun individual counseling. I can't let his multiple affairs leave my state of conscience. I love him and I do believe he loves me, as well. We are both retired and very active in our church. He has rededicated himself to Christ and has done all that I have asked of him. He demonstrates much sorrow. I will watch for a reply and I sincerely thank you.

See my guidance below.

Marriage Question: I am so broken as I write this. Have confessed and repented and begged God for forgiveness. My husband and I have been married since March 1995 and had both come from failed marriages where we were cheated on and lied to.

See my guidance below.

Marriage Question: Angie, I am a desperate wife that cheated on my husband due to loneliness. I am so sorry that this happened and I realize what a mistake I made. He has already filed for divorce and will not even consider any other option. I am devastated. Can you pray for me?

See my guidance below.

Marriage Question: Help!! I don't know what to do. My husband is having an affair with a 21 year old (he's 38). He met her on line and is a non-Christian. I want my marriage to work and trust the Lord to bring my prodigal home, but I am just unsure of how to handle the situation. Please respond when you can. I am going crazy here!!

See my guidance below.

Marriage Question: Angie, I first found some of your writings on the web about six weeks ago when I realized that my marriage was in a crisis and that my husband was having an affair. He has not admitted to this, and I am

trying to detach and forgive, but I am struggling at times, as it is painful and ultimately lonely. Since, I have bought two of your books and have been reading them trying to first improve myself and rethink my behavior and the status of my heart, which seems to have been broken open as a result of this terrible time. I have been praying and trying to set my priorities right. Why I am writing I am not sure, and what you can do to help is not clear, but maybe if you pray for me it couldn't hurt! I am having a day of anxiety even though I want to save my marriage and am trying to find some extra strength today. Thanks for listening.

Marriage Guidance

Marriage Guidance: Infidelity is a big problem in marriages that have NOT put God first. And it is not just infidelity that is a problem, as you can see from the above issues, but with it come unforgiveness, jealousy, resentment, mistrust, and suspicion, just to name a few. These issues are symptoms of infidelity.

Most of these feelings are normal to have after learning a spouse has had an affair, or, if you are the one who had the affair. But after a time, and if the spouse has repented of their sins, you must learn to give up these heavy-laden emotions. You have to change yourselves too, not just the spouse who committed adultery.

How do we change ourselves? Well, we need to put God first in our personal lives and then in our marriage by repenting of our sins and becoming "new people" in the love of Jesus Christ. We must learn to forgive our repentant spouse and become "new people" in Jesus Christ. Both of these take biblical, selfless steps to accomplish. If we keep walking on our own path we won't accomplish these steps towards forgiveness and love.

*In all your ways acknowledge Him, and he will make your paths straight.
Proverbs 3:6*

Our own path, without God is not based on love but on selfishness, revenge, lying, cheating, coveting, stealing, immorality and all kinds of selfish thoughts and ideas. This path leads us further and further away from God and God's love for us. I was on that path at one time in my life. I know what it's all about. I'm showing you how to get off that path.

"Do not be afraid little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the Kingdom." Luke 12:32

Let's discuss the issue of infidelity for a moment. It is usually after a spouse has been caught in their infidelity that they want to repent and work on the marriage. This tells us that this person is not really ready to start working on the marriage or healing of themselves. What they really need is to work on healing themselves and their relationship with the Lord. Marriage restoration really needs to be put on hold until they have gotten their heart straight with God. Let me explain.

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also". Luke 12:34

The above scripture is the root of ALL the problems within the emotional self. We have been conditioned by society and how we were raised to be slaves to sin—we're selfish people! Face it!

We must be transformed. We MUST be willing to be TRANSFORMED...and let God go to work in our lives. God goes to work but we have to follow His work with sincerity and faith—there is no other way!!

We Must Be Transformed

We can all repent of our sins and say we are going to turn our life around, but unless the willingness to do *that* is there, all of these things are for show and tell. Unless the willingness is there we will commit adultery again and again. As long as the intent to commit adultery is there, it will be done. This is why Christ says that to even look on a woman lustfully is to have already committed adultery. Do you get it!!

Our life is based on INTENT and ATTITUDE. If our intent and attitude are not with God then where are they? Where is your purpose headed?

If our heart is still on that path that leads away from God then everything we say and do will be in vain. But...when we move our heart away from the path that leads to worldly things we begin to see more clearly at what we are supposed to be doing with our lives. We understand it is not our own will that must be done but the will God.

*Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. **Do what it says.** Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in the mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, **but doing it** – he will be blessed in what he does. James 1:22-25*

We must change our heart and mind – only God can do that...and through His Son Christ. Absolutely nothing can be done unless we go through the Son!!

- ✓ We can't change our heart and mind no matter how many times we mouth it out loud in church or to others. We're sinners!
- ✓ We have to allow Jesus to change our heart and mind by giving our selfish life over to Him.
- ✓ If we keep holding on tight to this world and what this world has to offer we won't really have the chance to get to know Jesus and what He has to offer, now will we?
- ✓ We have to allow ourselves to be transformed.
- ✓ If there is one thing I would tell people who have had affairs it would be to *trust in Jesus Christ*. When we trust in the world we become just like the world, and we do the things of the world. If we decide to trust in Christ we can give up our past. God has given us a chance to go to Him with our past. **That means we have a chance to become (brand) new people!**

*Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but **be transformed** by the renewing of your mind. (Romans 12:2)*

Why Would Someone Have An Affair?

Why would someone go out of their way to cheat on the person they are married to and have an affair? The answer to this question has nothing to do with the person you married to. The answer to this question has to do with YOU. Why would you have an affair? Once you figure that out, you'll know what you need to do. Whether or not you will do that is up to you, but at least you will get it all figured out.

Most people never really get to the bottom of "why they had an affair" because they are too wrapped up in blaming their spouse for their problems, and because they like playing the blame game. They feel guilty and now need to blame someone else for their indiscretions. They have unresolved issues within themselves that have never healed. A person with unresolved issues is like an unhappy person with character flaws. Many folks are scarred and guess what? They remain scarred. Many folks scarred themselves by being slaves to sin.

It doesn't have to be like that. Remember, we cannot just mouth some words at the altar, eat a piece of bread and drink of some grape juice and get baptized, and say we believe in God and now we are automatically saved!!!

IT IS NOT GOING TO BE THAT EASY, SORRY FOLKS.

We have to actually give up the old life of sin through repentance, sincere repentance and then walk absolutely in Faith and Trust that what God says for our life is THE WAY...AND FOLLOW IT!!

Flaws in our character do not mend by themselves. Sleeping around, drinking ourselves to oblivion, drugging up, and using other people sexually will not make us feel better about the person we are. Our flaws are here to

stay until we stand up and take responsibility for our actions. Only when we take responsibility for our actions will we see our own flaws.

What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? You want something but don't get it. James 4:1

*You quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. When you ask, you do not receive because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures. You adulterous people, **don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred toward God?** Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes and enemy of God. James 4:2-4*

Stop blaming others for your unhappiness and misery and take steps to be in control of your life and be a responsible person. Be responsible for your part in the marriage! And allow your spouse to be responsible for their part without you trying to take responsibility.

To fill up your emptiness takes something spiritual – a spiritual renewal of heart and mind. **There is only one relationship that gives us the fulfillment and wholeness we actually need and have been searching for. And that relationship is with Jesus.**

On a personal note, I just want to tell each and every one of you who wrote in, understand that the issue of infidelity is only a symptom of something even greater - most likely the lack of God in ones life. If we do not find our purpose with God and learn to love in the proper ways, our marriages will continue to experience symptoms such as infidelity and nothing will change.

Please read the article resources at the end of this marriage column – print them out and read them together with your spouse. Follow the principles and let God take back your marriage. Your marriage can be restored!

God Bless!

Angie and Frank

Heaven Ministries

Book Resources

[How to Forgive and Love a Cheating Spouse](#)

We Need To Go To The Root of the Problem!!

God is our Healer!! If you do not believe that then this eBook is NOT for you.

Adultery Pandemic

Turn Your Marriage Into A Success! If you want to restore your marriage from the demoralizing effects of adultery, then look no further - this is the book for you.

Your Marriage Can Be Restored. A treasure book filled with effective guidance for your marriage from forgiveness and trust to recommitting your lives to each other again. Practical and easy-to-read, this book combines the solutions and remedies your marriage needs towards recovery. This book will give you the guidance you need to discover the true secrets to a happy, lifelong marriage.

You Can Heal The Wounds - Your marriage deserves to have the best possible care. God is that care. Make your marriage important to you. A treasury of great information you can't live without if you want to remain happily married.

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Article Resources:

Why Am I Obligated To Stay Married To An Adulterer?

http://www.heavenministries.com/Articles/why_am_i_obligated_to_stay_married.htm

Adultery is Forgivable

<http://www.heavenministries.com/articles/adulteryisforgivable.htm>

What Really Causes A Spouse To Cheat

http://www.heavenministries.com/articles/what_really_causes_a_spouse_to_c.htm

Change of Attitude - Change of Heart

<http://www.heavenministries.com/HeavenMin/Articles/changeofattitude.htm>

Heal Marriage After Adultery

http://www.heavenministries.com/articles/heal_marriage_after_adultery.htm